4th January 1954]

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) & (b) Yes, for the alleged failure of the drivers to produce their driving licences which had been locked up overnight in the office room. After the licences were handed over, the vehicles resumed the service. The incident was on the night of 19th October 1953. There has been no trouble since 21st October."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" In view of the fact that reports appeared in the Press that the detention of the buses was due to the fact that the Tirupathi-Tirumalai Devasthanam authorities refused to allow our State buses to be parked in the choultry compound and that our drivers were forced to get stranded on the roads, will the Government come forward with an enquiry into the matter in order to remove the misapprehension that has been created in the public mind? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I hope the hon. Member will not give much credence to what appeared in the Press. The Government of Andhra were apprised regarding the seizure of licences from our drivers by the Police officials of the Andhra State on 20th October 1953. The Government of Andhra have been requested to institute an enquiry into the incident and let this Government know the result of that enquiry. As soon as that report is received, I shall be able to give more exact details of the incident."

Relief to handloom weavers.

* 285 Q.—SRI M. PALANIYANDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government forwarded to the Central Government the resolution passed by the Assembly on 4th November 1952 about the allocation of the yarn entirely to handloom industry for the weaving of bordered sarees and dhotis;

(b) if so, what is the reply from the Central Government;

(c) whether the Government have succeeded in persuading the Central Government to allocate the same to the handloom weavers; and

(d) if not, what action this Government are going to take to help the handloom weavers?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (a) The resolution passed by this House on 4th November 1952 supported the view of this Government that the weaving of all bordered dhotis and coloured sarees should be reserved to the handloom industry and urged that the Central Government should take steps to make available to the handloom industry sufficient quantities of yarn spun out of Indian cotton for the purpose. The resolution was forwarded to the Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on 5th November 1952.

"(b) The receipt of the resolution was acknowledged by the Government of India but no specific reply was received to the latter point urged in the resolution.

"(c) Subsequent to the passing of the resolution the control over distribution of yarn was lifted and yarn is now freely available. The need for persuading the Central Government to accept our request no longer exists.

"(d) This Government introduced in June 1952 a general scheme for affording immediate relief to weavers through the agency of co-operative societies in the districts. Under the scheme the weavers get a subsistence wage and continuous employment without the burden of marketing cloth. Co-operative primary weavers' societies which stopped functioning have revived. Weavers outside the co-operative fold have joined the existing and new primary weavers' societies."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" மந்திரி அவர்கள் கொடுத்த பதிலிலே அந்தத் தீர்மானத்திற்குப் பிறகு கண்ட்ரோல் எடுக்கப்பட்டது என்றும், அதன் காரணமாக கைத்தறி நெசவாளர்களுக்கு நூல் கிடைத்தது என்றும் சொன்னார்கள். ஆனால், நூல் விலை இப்பொழுது எப்படி இருக்கிறது ? கூட்டுறவு சொஸைட்டியின் மூலம் அவர்களுக்குக் கொடுக்கப்படும் சம்பளம் நாலணாவாக இருக்கிறதே தவிர வேறொன்றுமில்லை. ஆகையால், இந்த சட்டசபையிலே 375 அங்கத்தினர்கள் தீர்மானித்து அனுப்பிய தீர்மானத்தை மத்திய அரசாங்கம் கொஞ்சம் கூடஏற்காது இருப்பதனால் இங்கிருக்கும் கைத்தறி நெசவாளர்கள் மிகவும் பாதிக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். ஆகையால், உடனடியாக கரை வேஷ்டிகளுக்கும், பார்டர் கலர் சேலைகளுக்கும் நூல் ஒதுக்குவதற்கு நமது அரசாங்கம் மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தை கேட்குமா ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The hon. Member is aware that in reply to our request the Central Government suspended the production in mills of a certain percentage of dhotis and sarees. They have also instituted a mill cloth cess fund from out of the proceeds of sale of mill cloth which will benefit the primary societies. So far as the availability of yarn is concerned, my information is that there is plenty of yarn available. The difficulty now is want of sufficient off-take. With regard to wages, it was also decided that it should be four annas or whatever the current rate in the neighbouring areas is."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN :—" May I know whether the Government will stop the import of mill cloth into this State until the condition of the weavers improves and attains normalcy? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" There is no proposal now to prevent any mill cloth coming into our State. But I may tell the House that a Committee has been appointed by the Central Government under the chairmanship of Sri Nithyananda Kanunga which has gone round the country collecting statistics to find out how best we could help the industry to stabilize itself vis-a-vis the competition from the mill industry. The report is awaited and I hope when it is ready, it will reveal many interesting facts."

4th January 1954]

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" Arising out of the answer to clause (*b*) of the main question, may I know the amount that has been allotted to Madras from out of the mill goods cess fund? May I also know what the proposals of our Government are for relieving the distress of handloom weavers? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The amount allotted to our State is in the neighbourhood of Rs. 85 lakhs. The Government of Madras have submitted a plan for the approval of the Government of India. When that is approved, it will give relief to nearly 50,000 weavers through the agency of co-operative societies."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" நெசவாளர்களுடைய கஷ்டம் நீங்கி விட்டது என்பது சர்க்காருடைய எண்ணமா ? அவர்களுடைய கஷ்டம் நீங்கி விட்டது என்ற காரணத்திற்காக கஞ்சித்தொட்டிகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கின் றனவா ? கஞ்சித்தொட்டிகள் ஏன் எடுக்கப்பட்டன என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பார்களா ?"

MR. SPEAKER:—" நீங்கள் தனியாக ஒரு கேள்வி போடுங்கள்."

SRI C. KANDASAMY:—" அஸெம்பிளி தீர்மானப்படி பூரா நூலும் கரை போட்ட வேஷ்டிகளுக்கும், கலர் சேலைகளுக்கும் கொடுக்கவேண்டும் என்று சொல்லி கண்ட்ரோல் எடுத்ததற்குப் பிறகு, அதேமாதிரி பூராவும் செய்திருக்கிறதா என்பதை மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்வார்களா ?

Sir, the Hon. Minister said that after the removal of control on yarn, things had improved. I want to know what exactly the position now is."

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I would like a separate question to be put. I am not quite sure of the present position. But I think that there is difficulty because it seems there is not enough off-take. I presume yarn made out of Indian cotton is available in plenty."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Sir, may I know the percentage of weavers who are members of co-operative societies to the total number of weavers in the State? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, to give an accurate answer, I should like to have notice of a separate question. But, I would like to say that roughly about 20 per cent of the weavers are in the co-operative fold."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" மத்திய அரசாங்கம் இந்த அரசாங்கத் 10-40 a.m.
திற்காக எவ்வளவு செஸ் ஒதுக்கினாலும் கைத்தறி நெசவு தொழிலாளியின் நிலை உயரவில்லை. ஆகையால், இந்த சட்டசபையின் தீர்மானத்தை மத்திய அரசாங்கம் மதிக்க வில்லை. அவ்வாறு மதிக்கவில்லை என்பதை இந்த அரசாங்கம் மறுக்கமுடியுமா ? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" Sir, the hon. Member must realize that the Centre, though not by way of implementing our resolution, has done its very best in so many other ways. I am told that so far as handloom cloth is concerned the off-take and the export have increased from

about 25 million yards to 50 million yards last year and this year, for the first six months, I am told that the export is reported to be in the neighbourhood of 60 million yards. All these indicate that there has been a general improvement in the position of the handloom weaver.''

SRI A. SAMBASIVAM :—'' மத்திய அரசாங்கத்தினுடைய செஸ் நிதி மூலம் நெசவாளர்களுக்கு போதுமான நூல் வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கவில்லை என்பதற்காக நூல் நூற்கும் தொழிற்சாலைகளிலிருந்தே வாங்குவதற்கு அரசாங்கம் எண்ணி இருக்கிறதா அல்லது முன்போல் சொசைடி மூலம் ஒத்தாசை செய்ய முடியுமா ?''

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—'' Yes, Sir. One of the recommendations which the Central Government have accepted is the establishment of a spinning mill somewhere in the South for the purpose of making yarn, and sufficient finance has also been allocated for it. I am fairly certain that when this mill begins to produce it will help the handloom weavers to a considerable extent.''

SRI S. RAMALINGAM :—'' கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் பதில் சொல்லும் போது இங்கு நெசவாளர்களுக்கு நிவாரணம் தேடித்தர பல முயற்சிகள் எடுக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதாக கூறினார்கள். அப்படியானால் ஹைபவர் கமிட்டி செய்த சிபார்சை நம் அரசாங்கம் மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு அனுப்பி யுள்ளார் களா ? மத்திய சர்க்காருக்கு அனுப்பியதில் எவைகளை ஒத்துக் கொண்டிருக் கிறார்கள். எவைகளை ஒத்துக் கொள்ளவில்லை என்று மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிக்கவேண்டும்.''

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—'' Sir, many of the recommendations of the High Power Committee have been accepted by the Central Handloom Board and the Central Government. I would like to have notice of a separate question to give details but, I can assure this House that many of the recommendations of this Committee have been accepted both by the Central Government and the Central Handloom Board.''

Medical concessions to N.G.Os.

* 286 *Q.*—SRI K. ARANGANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any additional allotment has been made in addition to the usual allotment to the Government hospitals on account of free medical aid given to non-gazetted officers ; and

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government have sent instructions to the District Medical Officers not to prescribe to non-gazetted officers any medicines which are not available in the hospital but to advise them to buy such medicines at their own cost from outside?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—'' (*a*) No additional allotment has been made.

'' (*b*) Instructions have been issued to the effect that medical officers should not prescribe expensive drugs, tonics, laxatives